

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant acknowledges, with thanks, the office action dated April 29, 2008, and completion of the personal interview of July 15, 2008. The Examiner's observations and suggestions are much appreciated and summarized herein. The Examiner's acceptance of the drawings filed on April 2, 2004, and consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on April 2, 2004, and May 12, 2004, is noted with appreciation. Claims 1, 3-9, 11-16, 23, 25-28 are currently pending.

The format of the abstract of the disclosure has been amended to overcome Examiner's objections. No new matter has been added.

Claim 1 was rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/818,230. The Applicant is submitting a terminal disclaimer signed by an Attorney of Record of this application, in view of which submission, withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

Claims 17-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Claims 17-22 have been cancelled.

Claims 1-2, 4-8, 9-10, 12-16, 17-18, 20-22, 23-24, and 26-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,254,606 to Hamada (*hereinafter*, "Hamada"). Claims 3, 11, 19, and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hamada in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0071900 to Aoyagi (*hereinafter*, "Aoyagi"). In view of the amendments and arguments set forth below, it is submitted that all pending claims are patentably distinct over the art of record.

The subject application is directed to a system and method for providing fee-based collaborative access to data stored on a shared data peripheral device. A selected storage area is allocated in a secure data storage medium and login data is received corresponding to an identity of an associated user. Formatting data is received from the user corresponding to a format for storage of electronic document data and data is communicated from at least one data input/output device in a data peripheral system into the selected storage area of secure data storage medium. Charge information is secured from the associated user, which charge information allows for securing of payment for use the data peripheral system and charge verification information is

secured corresponding to receive charge information. Operation of the data peripheral system is then enabled in accordance with an output of the verification means so as to provide fee-based access of the associated user to the peripheral system. An access control list is received from the user corresponding to an identity of at least one user authorized to access data stored in the selected storage area of the secure data storage medium and stored, wherein the access control list, which access control list dictates an identity of users authorized to access the data stored in the selected storage area of the secure data storage medium. Secure login data is generated for each authorized user associated with the access control list and communicated to each authorized user. Login data is received from the at least one authorized user, tested against the access control list; and data stored in the selected storage area of the secure data storage medium is communicated to the at least one authorized user in accordance with an output of the testing.

As discussed during the Interview, Hamada is directed to a system that allows a user to make a data storage request from a client terminal, after which a control server selects a data server for a data storage operation. Hamada does not teach a collaborative document sharing system that alleviates the problem associated with sharing documents, such as large documents, electronically with a selected set of users. In the subject application, an embodiment includes a mechanism wherein a user can approach a walk up document processing device, and scan document, the resulting electronic file being too large to attach for distribution via some e-mail systems. The user suitably enters, via a device interface, e-mail addresses for those to whom a copy is made available. Those users are contacted via e-mail with secure login information to allow them to access the scan file.

Amendment to each of independent claims 1, 9 and 23 has been made to render more clearly the patentable distinctions over the art of record. As amended, all claims include limitations wherein a user enters list of one or more users to whom access to an electronic file is to be given. Each selected user is then given secure login information to allow them to access this electronic file. Such limitations are not taught by the art of record.

In accordance with the afore-noted amendments and comments, it is submitted that all claims are patentably distinct over the art, and in condition for allowance thereover. An early allowance of all claims is respectfully requested.

If there are any fees necessitated by the foregoing communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0902, referencing our Docket No. 66329/00170.

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Respectfully submitted,



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